



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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Chief Executive Officer

April 4, 2014

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

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REPORT BACK ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO PROVIDE STATE-ISSUED IDENTIFICATION TO YOUTH AND ADULT EX-OFFENDERS (ITEM NO. 18, AGENDA OF JANUARY 28, 2014)

On January 28, 2014, the Board of Supervisors requested the Chief Executive Office (CEO), in collaboration with the Sheriff's Department (Sheriff) and Probation Department (Probation), to pursue the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the California State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to facilitate efforts to provide State-issued identification to youth and adult ex-offenders. The report back was also to include:

- A plan on the feasibility of co-locating DMV staff at both the jail and Probation facilities to coordinate seamless processing of identification cards for ex-offenders; and
- Options for funding the costs of providing identification documents.

The Board also requested that the CEO, in collaboration with Probation, report back on a proposed allocation to facilitate birth certificate applications for adults supervised by Probation.

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Background

On December 17, 2013, the Board directed the CEO, in collaboration with the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC), Sheriff, Probation, and the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC), to establish a process for providing vital records, such as birth certificates and State-issued identification cards, to adults in Sheriff's custody and adults and youth under the supervision of Probation.

On January 28, 2014, after discussion of the report back provided by the CEO and CCJCC, the Board further requested the CEO and the County partners continue their efforts in developing a MOU with the DMV to ensure that youth and ex-offenders have the opportunity to receive State-issued identification.

Sheriff

State-Issued Identification

Following your Board's direction, the Sheriff had multiple discussions with DMV management regarding concepts that could be implemented in the County. Ultimately, the Sheriff convened a meeting on March 10, 2014, with representatives from DMV, CEO, CCJCC, and Sheriff's Education Based Incarceration Bureau and Community Transition Unit (CTU). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the feasibility of establishing a process for providing State identification cards to sentenced inmates prior to their release from custody. During the course of the meeting, the County proposed the opportunity to have DMV co-locate at the Sheriff's Community Re-entry Resource Center (CRRRC).

With current uncertainties revolving around DMV's budget and the anticipation of an additional 1.6 million undocumented drivers applying for licenses under the passage of Assembly Bill 60 (AB60), driver's license eligibility, DMV was unable to commit to a long-term, co-location option at this time. However, the stakeholders did agree to move forward with a pilot program to provide identification cards to those in custody. The pilot program would allow stakeholders greater flexibility in anticipating the demand for this service from County inmates, as well as allowing the State the opportunity to make adjustments determined by the State budget and the impact of AB60.

This pilot program will target Assembly Bill 109 (AB109), prison realignment, sentenced inmates who are scheduled for release within 90-120 days and who lack a State identification card. The CTU will assist and gather the necessary documentation for those inmates that have been issued a California identification card or driver's license during the past ten years. The ten year cut-off period is a DMV requirement, which will

allow for the use of the inmate's DMV photo on record and the re-issuance of a State identification card.

The completed request packet will be delivered to a selected DMV site for processing. Once the identification card(s) is issued, members of the CTU will gather and provide the issued State identification card(s) to the requesting inmate prior to their release from custody.

During the course of preparing and launching this pilot program, the stakeholders will continue to discuss the viability of enhancing the program by assisting inmates who were not issued a California identification card or driver's license beyond the ten-year statute date. This group would require additional documentation, such as birth certificates and social security cards, to meet DMV identification verification requirements. Additionally, the discussion of DMV possibly co-locating with Sheriff's personnel in the CRRC will continue to be examined in further detail by the stakeholders group. Issues reviewed by the group will include the demand for this service and the requirements, effectiveness, and fiscal challenges of a co-location proposal.

The CTU will be taking the lead role in collaborating with DMV in preparation of launching the State identification card pilot program on June 9, 2014. During the preceding weeks, the stakeholders will continue to meet and discuss the necessary procedures and processes for implementation.

The Sheriff is currently working with County Counsel to review the limitations of funding the application fees accrued by the pilot program within the Sheriff's budget. The review includes an assessment of the Inmate Welfare Fund and AB109 requirements. It should also be noted that DMV has preliminarily indicated that the Sheriff would be able to submit reduced fee waiver applications (\$8) on behalf of the inmates.

Ex-Offender Birth Certificates

The Sheriff continues to progress in the development of a process to provide vital records, such as birth certificates and State-issued identification cards, to in-custody adults. Since November 2013, the CTU has been accepting and processing birth certificate requests from sentenced inmates. When a requesting-sentenced inmate is within 120 days or less of their release date, a deputized RR/CC Custody Assistant from CTU contacts the inmates and assists them with their application process. Within two weeks' time, all inmate applicants born in Los Angeles County are given a certified copy of their birth certificate. Requesting-sentenced inmates with release dates that are 120 days or more are placed on a standby list. The Sheriff has authority to adjust the 120-day minimum based on the demands of the project.

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All inmate applicants born outside of Los Angeles County have their contact information given to their birth county or state records office for processing. From November 2013 through March 2014, a total of 48 birth certificates have been issued, with 60 more sentenced inmates on the standby list pending processing and issuance.

Probation

State-Issued Identification

At the March 10, 2014, meeting, the stakeholders also discussed the possibility of DMV offering similar services to youth and adult populations under the supervision of Probation.

DMV was reluctant to commit to this proposal due to the uncertainty of their budget and the impact of AB60. However, DMV was open to revisiting this issue once there is more clarity on their budget status, the impact of AB60, and the launch of the pilot program.

Birth Certificates for Adults Supervised by Probation

Probation has continued their effort to expand the opportunity to provide birth certificates to the adult population, as well as the youth under the supervision of Probation. Probation is working jointly with RR/CC and is engaged in two MOUs, both for adult and youth field operations.

RR/CC is also providing three additional training sessions that will deputize 50 more Adult Field Operations Officers to work on AB109 and general adult cases. The training session will be completed by the end of April 2014.

The CEO will continue to update the Board on the efforts to provide identification to adult and youth ex-offender populations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Georgia Mattera, Public Safety, at (213) 893-2374.

WTF:GAM:DC:llm

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Probation
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk